

Commission Opens Study on States Constitution; Streamlining Sought

A new advisory commission authorized by the last session of the State Legislature has opened a series of sessions in Sacramento to begin the task of streamlining the California Constitution.

The commission includes Frank Murphy, chancellor of the University of California at Los Angeles; Dr. Norman Topping, president of the University of Southern California; Burnham Ebersen and James C. Sheppard, past presidents of the California Bar Assn.; and Milton Teague, president of the State Chamber of Commerce.

OTHER MEMBERS of the new commission are: Alvin Gruhn, president of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO; Dr. Arthur Corey, California Teachers Assn.; William McDougall, representing the County Supervisors Assn.; and Mmes. Lauffer T. Hayes, Paul Holmer, Harry Williams, Robert Zurbach, and Lawrence A. Spear, all past presidents of the League of Women Voters of California.

The commission was appointed by the Joint Committee on Legislative Organization after approval of Proposition 7 at the 1962 general election. The proposition enabled the Legislature to propose revisions in the state constitution in the same manner as amendments and then submit them to the voters for final approval.

The California Constitution was last rewritten in 1879 by a convention. It has been amended more than 300 times in the years since and now contains more than 80,000 words. The Federal Constitution, in contrast, contains 7,500 words and has been amended 24 times since 1789.

TASTE BUMPS
The human tongue has 9,000 taste buds on its surface.

Commission will assist the Joint Committee on Legislative Organization in proposing recommendations for revision of the constitution, according to Mrs. C. R. Berwanger, president of the League of Women Voters.

Three Torrance Area Students Win Art Awards

Three Torrance students have been named winners in the 18th annual Scholastic Art Awards regional competition. The three winners were presented with their awards in ceremonies held at the Philharmonic Auditorium.

Barbara Valerio, a student at Carson High School, and Anita Bertuzzi of Bishop Montgomery High School won both a gold key and a blue ribbon for their work. Bill Kelso of White Junior High School won a blue ribbon.

Spartans Prepare for WASC Visit in April

South High School is now in the midst of preparations for an April visit by the Western Assn. of Schools and Colleges visiting committee which will determine if the Spartan campus is to receive accreditation from the association.

The committee of five educators, including high school teachers and principals, will examine the campus, its instructional, administrative, and clerical staffs and interview students and teachers during a three-day visit scheduled April 6, 7, and 8.

In the meantime, students are busy applying the finishing touches to a massive self-evaluation report which will accompany the visiting committee's report. The end result, hopefully, will be a full five-year accreditation by WASC.

STEPHEN SAVORITA, curriculum consultant for South High, has been in charge of the job of coordinating and assembling the report on South's academic, extra-curricula, and supporting programs. He has worked with committees of students, teachers, administrators, and classified personnel in compiling the huge report on the school.

Two other Torrance schools have completed the process and have been accredited for five years. North High finished the job last year, while Torrance received a full term accreditation two years ago.

The report, which must be in four sections, includes thorough evaluations of the

school by teachers, students, and other employees of the district. Sections on administration, instruction, custodial and clerical duties, and student feelings are now ready to be put into final form.

ALL TEACHERS, custodians, clerks, and administrators worked in numerous committees to complete their assignments. Students formed a committee of 25, which included a complete cross-section of the student population, and worked on answers to 500 questionnaires in completing their section of the report.

The job, begun in late October, is nearing an end now and the campus is making initial preparations for the visiting committee. When the committee arrives, its members will be given the freedom of the campus for three days. They will interview students, teachers, and other members of the Spartan community in an effort to complete their own report.

Once the reports are finished, all will be forwarded to the WASC offices, where professional educators, administrators, and college professors will evaluate them. The group will then make its report and may grant or refuse accreditation. Final results, says Saporita, will be known probably late in May or early June.

Defense Siren Sounds Friday

Civil defense sirens will be sounded throughout Los Angeles County at 10 a.m. tomorrow in the usual monthly test, according to an announcement by Sheriff Peter J. Pitchess.

The test will consist of a two-minute steady wail, followed by 30 seconds of silence and concluded with a one-minute undulating sound.

Northrop Corp. Pays Dividend

The board of directors of Northrop Corp. declared a quarterly dividend of 25 cents per share, payable March 14 to stock of record Feb. 28.

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Torrance Herald

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